

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Applicants submit below a complete listing of the current claims, including marked-up claims with insertions indicated by underlining and deletions indicated by strikeouts and/or double bracketing. This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

1-11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently amended) A method of performing a catheter-based procedure to a particular treatment site within a patient comprising:

providing a catheter comprising a tubular shaft having a proximal end and a distal end and a radially extendible tissue engagement mechanism at its distal end, the radially extendible tissue engagement mechanism comprising a plurality of resilient members configured to be selectively engaged so that the resilient members extend radially ~~outward~~ outwardly from a longitudinal axis, each resilient member having proximal and distal ends, all distal ends of the resilient members being joined together and fixed longitudinally relative directly to the shaft adjacent its the distal end of the shaft and all proximal ends of the resilient members being joined together and to the shaft at a position proximal to the distal end of the shaft such that the resilient members lie parallel to the longitudinal axis along and adjacent the shaft when unloaded and such that the resilient members bow radially ~~outward~~ and the distal end of the shaft is rotated through an angular displacement outwardly when a compressive load is applied to them;

navigating the catheter so that the distal end is adjacent to the intended treatment site; causing applying a compressive load to cause the tissue engagement mechanism to extend into engagement with the tissue adjacent to the treatment site; and

performing the procedure while maintaining the tissue engagement mechanism in its extended position.

13. (Previously presented) A method of performing a catheter-based procedure as defined in claim 12 wherein the treatment site is the myocardium of the heart and the treatment is relieving the symptoms of ischemia.

14. (Original) A method of performing a catheter-based procedure as defined in claim 13 wherein the treatment of ischemia comprises advancing a tissue implant through the catheter and into the tissue at the treatment site.

15. (Original) A method of performing a catheter-based procedure as defined in claim 13 wherein the treatment for ischemia comprises delivering a therapeutic agent or cellular composition through the catheter to the treatment site.

16. (Previously amended) A method of performing a catheter-based procedure as defined in claim 12 wherein the treatment site is the myocardium of the heart and the procedure includes detecting thermal data of the tissue.

17-18. (Canceled)

19. (Previously amended) A method of performing a catheter-based procedure as defined in claim 12 wherein the treatment site is the myocardium of the heart and the procedure includes detecting electrical data of the tissue.

20-24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently amended) A method of performing a catheter-based procedure as defined in claim 12 further comprising causing wherein applying a compressive load causes the distal end of the shaft to rotate through an angular displacement when the compressive load is applied independently of the resilient members.

26. (Currently amended) A method of performing a catheter-based procedure as defined in claim 12 further comprising providing ~~the catheter comprising~~ a pull wire coupled to the radially extendible tissue engagement mechanism;
and pulling the pull wire to apply the compressive load.

27. (Currently amended) A method of performing a catheter-based procedure as defined in claim ~~25~~ 12 further comprising providing ~~the catheter comprising~~ a pull wire coupled to the radially extendible tissue engagement mechanism; and
pulling the pull wire to apply the compressive load; and
~~to rotate~~ rotating the shaft through an angular displacement ~~upon~~ by application of the compressive load.

28. (New) A method of performing a catheter-based procedure as defined in claim 12 wherein applying a compressive load causes the shaft to bow radially outwardly.